

**Department of Transportation
Project No. 94-252
Rehabilitation of Bridge Nos. 02514A&B
I-95SB and I-95 TR817 Over Thames River,
Locals Roads and Railroads
New London / Groton**

**Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 7:00 PM
Third Floor City Council Chambers
181 State Street
New London, Connecticut**

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance:

Timothy D. Fields	ConnDOT – Bridges
Andrew J. Cardinali	ConnDOT – Bridges
Michael L Marzi	ConnDOT – Rights-of-Way
Jacob J. Argiro	CME Associates
Ricky D. Mears	CME Associates
Public and Individual Stakeholders	

Presentation:

Mr. Cardinali opened the meeting with a brief introduction of The Department of Transportation (Department) and the Consultant Liaison Engineer, CME Associates (CME) personnel. He then stated the role of the Department and the role of CME as liaison engineers and continued with an introduction of the subject project and it's goal. Mr. Cardinali stated that the purpose of this public information meeting is to present the proposed rehabilitation measures and discuss any questions, comments, or concerns the public or town officials may have.

Mr. Mears followed with the technical portion of the presentation. He described the bridge's current deficiencies, proposed rehabilitation measures, proposed maintenance and protection of traffic, funds, and project schedule. Mr. Marzi followed stating the process for obtaining rights-of-way and applicable State Statutes.

Comments and Questions:

1. What type of impacts will there be on Fairview Avenue, Ferry Street, Bridge Street, Grove Avenue or in the surrounding neighborhoods?
 - Mr. Mears stated that temporary lane closures on Fairview Avenue may be required to facilitate construction access, but the maintenance and protection of traffic of local roads below the bridge will be refined during the design process.
2. Will there be a winter shutdown if the project extends into a second construction season?
 - Mr. Mears stated that should the project extend into a second season as currently proposed then a winter shutdown is anticipated.

3. Will there be lane closures during the summer, specifically during Sailfest?
 - Mr. Cardinali stated that the maintenance and protection of traffic will be refined during the design phase and that the District 2 Construction will review the plans and help identify trouble spots. Mr. Cardinali also noted that the Prosecution and Progress specification will add restrictions to lane closures based on historical traffic volumes.
4. Will any improvements be made to the pedestrian access, specifically to the width of the existing sidewalk on the bridge?
 - Mr. Cardinali stated that there will be improvements to increase visibility of access to the sidewalk on the approaches (off the bridge), but that widening the sidewalk is outside the scope of the work. Widening the sidewalk would be expensive and may not be feasible due the existing structure type.
5. Will improvements be made to the existing left turn exits and roadway geometry on I-95 off-ramps?
 - Mr. Fields stated that improving the left turn exits and roadway geometry of I-95 off-ramps was not part of this project, but that the concern would be brought to the attention of the Department.

Adjournment:

The recommended plans provide a design for removing the structural deficiencies of the existing bridge from service. Accordingly, the Department intends to seek design approval for the proposed plan. The Department will continue to keep the City informed of any changes that may occur as the design is being completed and will notify the City as the project transitions into the construction phase.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.